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# Ex-CIA Aide Scores Credibility Gap

Mobilization of the National Guard and the reserves in 1965 might have brought the war in Vietnam to a conclusion by now, a former high-ranking official of the Central Intelligence Agency said yesterday.

Lyman B. Kirkpatrick Jr., now a professor of political science at Brown University, said the call-up might have convinced the enemy of our resolve.

"I am almost convinced," he told Brown alumni gathered for Commencement weekend, "although I obviously don't sit in Moscow, Peking or Hanoi, that had they done this, the war might be over now."

Professor Kirkpatrick also challenged current estimates of needed troop strength issued by the President and his administration.

With over 400,000 troops now stationed in Vietnam the administration is saying about 150,000 more may be needed, he said. This would bring the total to over 550,000.

Assuming, however, that there are no further troop commitments by North Vietnam and that China does not enter the war, a "more realistic" figure would be about 750,000, Professor Kirkpatrick said.

"If the government would only say this the people would respond the way one would expect them to," he said.

The government's close-mouthed manner is one element of the credibility gap which leaves the American people not know what to believe about the war, Professor Kirkpatrick said.

"The government has not done a satisfactory job of letting us know why we are in Vietnam," he said. He was particularly critical of a speech made at Brown last fall by Gen. Earle C. Wheeler, chairman of the joint chiefs of staff.

"It was not the type of performance that should have been given on a college campus. He read a speech that someone in the bowels of the Pentagon had

written," the 18-year veteran of the CIA said.

"If the administration wants to talk about the war on campus, I would suggest it come out and say something," he said. The public is tired of hearing about "progression from the north," because it realizes the situation is considerably more complex than this "cliche" would indicate.

The issue which turned the credibility gap into a Grand Canyon," he said, was the disclosure recently of CIA financing of the National Student Association and other private, outwardly non-political organizations.

The problem underlying the credibility gap is Washington trying to put everything in the best possible light," he said.

While he faults the administration for the lack of information and dialogue about Vietnam, the professor said he faults Congress more.

"It is too bad Senator Fulbright has not exerted his influence as chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee to effect a continuous dialogue on the war," he said.

The speech, entitled "The University and National Security," was delivered in Tanner Auditorium. A large portion of the talk was devoted to a review of major activities on the Brown Campus in 1966-67.

Professor Kirkpatrick said he believes the country as a whole and the "campus elite" in particular is in the midst of a dynamic social revolution. He called it social "evolution following the technological revolution which is just catching up."

He said he detected an almost natural balance in liberal and conservative activism which has gripped the campus alternately in the last year.

Demonstrations against our policy in Vietnam he said, have not been so numerous as they were in the previous year. The number of students who have vowed to resist induction into the armed services is no higher

at Brown, than at other universities, he said.

Expressing his own thoughts on the draft -- some gleaned from conferences with perplexed students -- he said uncertainty is the primary irritant. If a student knew when he would be called, he could make plans accordingly. Most would probably go to Vietnam willingly under these circumstances, he said.